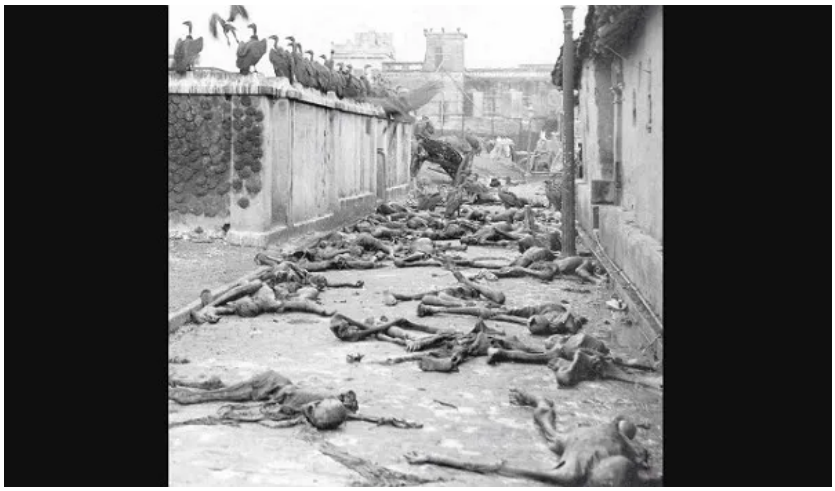
Winston Churchill and the 1943 Starvation of 4 Million in Bengal

Wed 10:48 am +00:00, 3 Jun 2026

posted by pete fairhurst 2



Source: https://www.winterwatch.net/2026/06/winston-churchill-and-the-1943-starvation-of-bengal/

"I hate Indians. They are a beastly people with a beastly religion. They are the beastliest people in the world next to the Germans." — Winston Churchill

Winter Watch is not a fan of Winston Churchill. In fact, we consider him near the top of the list of the nastiest leaders of the 20th century. Churchill follows the same mold as the British pederast warmonger clique exposed on these pages. In the events around the First World War he was a practicing junior partner.

Cecil Rhodes and His Warmongering Buggery Hegemony

Per the Rothschild family archive itself, Randolph Churchill (1849-1895) the father of Winston Churchill was an intimate of the Rothschild family. He formed a close association with Nathaniel, 1st Lord Rothschild, on whose behalf he reported on the development of the mining industry in South Africa. Churchill was a frequent guest at Rothschild houses. The Rothschilds made extensive loans to Churchill. Support for Rhodes had been encouraged by Randolph Churchill who had been acting as consultant to Rothschilds, assessing the prospects of gold and diamond mining in South Africa. Blood runs thick among these clans.

Case in point about the real blood thirst of dark triad Winston Churchill was the hidden history of the 1943 Bengal famine in which nearly four million souls starved to death under British rule. Once again this is not something you will find on History Channel and has been scrubbed from the now worthless You Tube. I am using two primary sources for this article: "The Taste of War: World War II and the Battle for Food' by Lizzie Collingham, and the well-cited book "Churchill's Secret War" by Madhusree Mukerjee.

The causa proxima for food shortages in the Bengal region in India during WWII breaks down as follows: Bengal's dismal winter rice harvest of 1942 was low due to warm, humid and cloudy weather. A tropical cyclone in October 1942 destroyed crops, causing the first wave of starvation. The Japanese occupied neighboring Burma, which was a swing or backup producer of grains and rice. A large number of refugees from Burma had come into Bengal, which increased food demand.

Adding to the difficulties was the fact that in 1942 and prior to the poor crop, Churchill, anticipating a Japanese invasion, **initiated a scorched-earth policy in eastern India** by destroying boats on the coastal areas and transport inland. **Rice stockpiles were destroyed, seized and shipped out leaving little in reserve.** With scarcity came the hoarders and speculators that further exacerbated the situation. Cultivators, farmers and landlords in

India, merchants and traders, and provincial governors hoarded supplies, paralyzed the Indian markets for rice and blatantly profiteered as the famine progressed.

So, clearly, by the end of 1942 even the most incompetent government would know that Bengal was headed for a perfect storm without alleviation. And yet British administrators let the situation go on for a year. Astonishingly, the provincial government of Bengal never formally declared a state of famine. The famine only ended because of the winter bumper crop of 1943-44. Without that, the famine could have taken millions more.

Adding to the politics, Gandhi's Quit India movement and Subhas Chandra Bose's Indian National Army were fighting alongside the Japanese. On the other side of the coin, by 1943 more than two and a half million Indian soldiers had been deployed to the allied war effort in Europe, Africa and Southeast Asia. Vast quantities of arms, ammunition and raw materials had been sourced from across India at no cost to Britain.

In keeping with neoliberal proclivities, the British had always taken a laissez-faire philosophy in ruling India. There were 31 serious famines during 120 years of British rule. These famines killed up to 30 million Indians. Therefore, initially, as the famine was developing in early 1943, Secretary of State for India Leo Amery at first took a Malthusian view of the crisis, arguing that India was "overpopulated" and that the best strategy was to do nothing.

According to Mukerjee, "Churchill's attitude toward India was quite extreme, and he hated Indians, mainly because he knew India couldn't be held for very long. Churchill regarded wheat as too precious a food to expend on recalcitrant subjects who were demanding independence from the British Empire. He preferred to stockpile the grain to feed Europeans after the war was over. Because of the needs of total war, India had become a major creditor or in Churchill's words — the biggest war profiteer."

Churchill was totally remorseless in diverting food to the British troops, Greek civilians and Balkan partisans. To him, "the starvation of anyhow underfed Bengalis (was) less serious than sturdy Greeks" — a sentiment with which Secretary of State for India and Burma Leopold Amery concurred. The timing of the famine was precisely when the war was turning in Europe, making Bengal expendable.

Footnote on Churchill's henchman Leopold Amery (1873-1955): Very typical of the British hierarchy, his mother's family was crypto-Jewish. The Jewish Virtual Library actually considers him the drafter of the Balfour Declaration. Amery also helped to create the Jewish Legion. Amery took great pride in this, claiming: "I seem to have had my finger in the pie, not only of the Balfour Declaration, but of the genesis of the present Israeli Army."

Churchill was resolutely opposed to any food shipments. Ships were desperately needed for the landings in Italy. Besides, Churchill felt it would do no good. Famine or no famine, Indians will "breed like rabbits." Very late in the catastrophe, Amery prevailed on him to send some relief, albeit only a quarter of what was needed.

But Churchill was also hoping for more aid from within India itself. Unfortunately, the politicians and civil servants of surplus provinces like the Punjab introduced regulations to prevent grain from leaving their provinces for the famine areas of Bengal, Madras and Cochin. India was not permitted to use its own sterling reserves, or indeed its own ships, to import food. Within India, the government prioritized military and defense needs over those of the rural poor, allocating medical care and food very much in favor of the military, laborers in military industries and civil servants.

When the famine got out of hand, even slow-to-react Amery, the crypto-Jewish arch-colonialist, denounced Churchill's "Hitler-like attitude." Urgently beseeched by Amery and Viceroy Archibald Wavell to release food stocks for India, Churchill responded with a telegram asking why Gandhi hadn't died yet. Even a few shipments of food grain would have helped, but the British prime minister adamantly turned down appeals from two successive Viceroys, his own secretary of state for India and even the president of the United States. Lord Wavell, appointed Viceroy of India that fateful year, considered the attitude of Churchill government toward India to be "negligent, hostile and contemptuous."

Offers of American and Canadian food aid were turned down as Churchill calculated it would ultimately deflect away from the home front and hurt morale. Overlooked is that the U.S. War Department and Army denied food allocations and shipping space to Britain. This forced Britain to ration food at half the level rationed to American civilians, causing Britain to absorb food stocks from the Empire, and diverted shipping to support U.S. and allied military operations. Mukerjee has unearthed documents that reveal ships carrying grain from Australia bypassed India on their way to the Mediterranean.

Ultimately Churchill summed up his Hanlon's Razor feeble excuses and four million death toll as ""War is mainly a catalogue of blunders."

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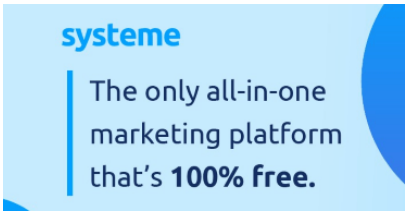

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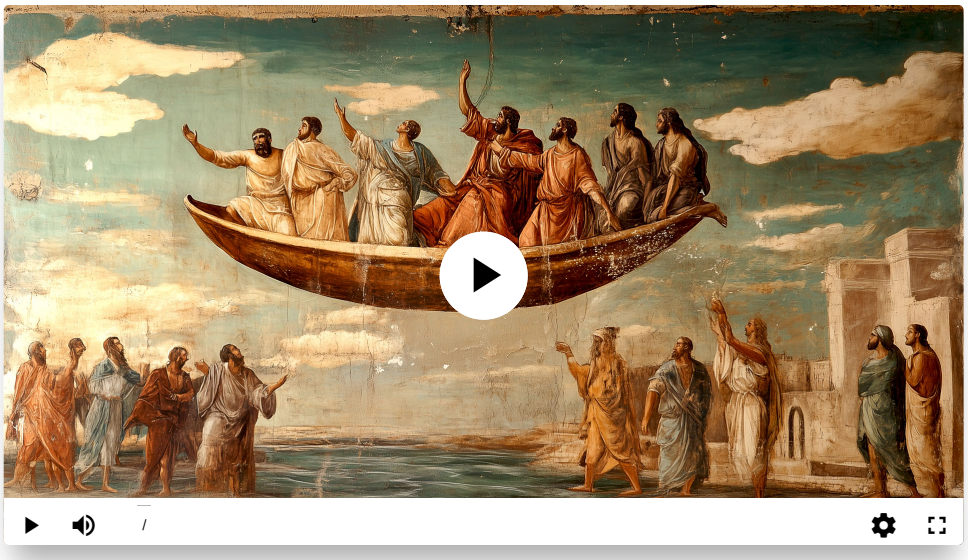

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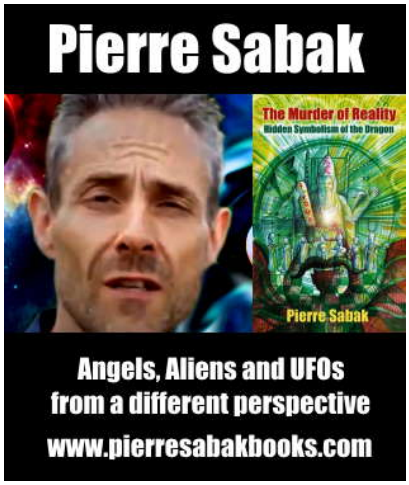

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